

Duxbury Clipper, Wednesday, August 20, 1997



On Aug. 6, 1851, a curious little newspaper (about the size of *Collier's Magazine*) named "Sarah Mac's Budget" appeared for the first time in Duxbury. It was full of poems and articles, but there was little in the way of news on its 4 pages. Some of the advertisements and notices were hilarious.

Under MARRIAGE we read: "At Trinity Church, Mr. Holbrook Tubbs, to Miss Mary Hatch. (Shortly after this marriage, Mr. Tubbs was accidentally thrown into a ravine, while at work prying out rocks—whereupon the following Epitaph was composed:

Here lies the body of Holbrook Tubbs—
He got his living by hard rubs;
By the looks of his shirt, and the want of patches,
He married his wife at old Seth Hatch's.—Ed.)"

We'll let you mull over this epitaph. It's too much for us. Here's a one-column-inch ad:

"Splendid Entertainment!

At the Hall Over the Partridge Academy

This day, at 9 o'clock, will be opened the Grand
Exhibition of the Duxbury Fair.

All persons wishing to procure tickets, can be supplied
by calling at our office.

Opposite the Town Hall
Duxbury, August, 1851."

And did you know that it was possible to make regular ocean excursions from Duxbury to Boston a century ago? Here is a short advertisement in "Sarah Mac's Budget": The elegant and fast sailing Packet, UNION, commanded by T.K. Weston, will leave her moorings on the stream, on Wednesday of each week for Boston, and return on Saturday. Passengers are requested to be at Powder Point Wharf, at any time of the tide.